

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION:

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 1, line 3 with the following rewritten heading and paragraph:

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

The invention relates to a tear-off device for sections of a continuous material, with a pullout mechanism and a tearing-off mechanism ~~of the introductory portion of claim 1.~~

Please insert the following heading as a new paragraph before the paragraph starting at page 2, line 10:

SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 2, line 13 with the following rewritten paragraph:

Starting out from a tear-off device ~~of the introductory portion of claim 1~~ for which at least one pressure-applying element can be adjusted by means of a positioning device, this objective is accomplished pursuant to the invention owing to the fact that the positioning device has at least one motor and control device for the temporal control of the motor, with which the pressure-applying element can be positioned at a controllable point in time.

Please cancel the following paragraph beginning at page 3,
line 6:

~~Preferred embodiments of the invention arise out of the
dependent claims.~~

Please insert the following heading as a new paragraph
before the paragraph starting at page 7, line 1:

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

Please insert the following heading as a new paragraph
before the paragraph starting at page 8, line 1:

DETAILED DESCRIPTION

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 12, line 22
with the following rewritten paragraph:

Figure 8 shows the same view as Figure 7. However, the pressure-applying rollers 24 and 26 are positioned against the conveyor belts 14 and 16. For this purpose, the pressure-applying rollers 24 and 26 were pivoted counter to the continuous material 18 by way of drive axes 56 of the transporting device 32 rotating in opposite directions 32. In Figure 8, the distance between the drive axes 56 is so small, so that the pressure-applying rollers 24 and 26 collide with one another even before their maximum vertical deflection, so that the drive axes 56 are

unable to carry out a complete revolution. The parking of a pressure-applying roller 24 or 26 is therefore accomplished by reversing the direction of rotation of the motor 60.